

# **EXHIBIT 1**

Hernandez, Jasmine  
L.C., a minor v. State of California

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
Case No.: 5:22-cv-00949-KK-(SHKx)

L.C., a minor by and through her  
guardian ad litem Maria Cadena,  
individually and as  
successor-in-interest to Hector  
Puga; I.H., a minor by and through  
his guardian ad litem Jasmine  
Hernandez, individually and as  
successor-in-interest to Hector  
Puga; A.L., a minor by and through  
her guardian ad litem Lydia Lopez,  
individually and as  
successor-in-interest to Hector  
Puga; and ANTONIA SALAS UBALDO,  
individually,

Plaintiffs,

v.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA; COUNTY OF  
SAN BERNARDINO; S.S.C., a nominal  
defendant; ISAIAH KEE; MICHAEL  
BLACKWOOD; BERNARDO RUBALCAVA;  
ROBERT VACCARI; JAKE ADAMS; and  
DOES 6-10, inclusive,

Defendants.

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VIDEOTAPED VIDEOCONFERENCE DEPOSITION OF  
JASMINE HERNANDEZ

Wednesday, December 11, 2024, 9:03 a.m.

Taken remotely via Zoom

REPORTED BY: Mary P. Randle, CSR No. 10312

1 APPEARANCES:

2 (Appearances via videoconference)

3  
4 For Plaintiffs:

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23 For Defendants State of California by and through  
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Also Present:

Vionela Vaughn-Austin, Videographer

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1 TAKEN REMOTELY VIA ZOOM

2 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2024

3 9:03 A.M.

4  
5 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good morning. This is the  
6 video deposition of Jasmine Hernandez, taken remotely on  
7 December 11th, 2024, in the matter of L.C. versus  
8 State of California, Case Number  
9 5:22-cv-00949-KK-(SHKx). This case is being heard in  
10 the United States District Court of Central District of  
11 California. This deposition is being taken on behalf of  
12 the Defendant.

13 My name is Vionela Vaughn-Austin. I'm the  
14 legal videographer contracted through Dean Jones Legal  
15 Videos, Inc., of Los Angeles and Santa Ana, California.  
16 Now, because we are not in person, as the videographer,  
17 I may have to interrupt the proceedings should the  
18 deponent drift -- or the witness drift out of frame or  
19 should any Zoom connectivity issues occur.

20 This deposition is commencing at 9:03 a.m.  
21 Would all present please identify yourselves, starting  
22 with the court reporter, then the witness, and then  
23 counsel.

24 THE COURT REPORTER: My name is Mary Randle  
25 with Jilio-Ryan.

1 THE WITNESS: My name is Jasmine Hernandez.

2 MS. GUSTAFSON: Shannon Gustafson for the  
3 County Defendants.

4 MS. ESQUIVEL: Diana Esquivel for the State  
5 Defendants, appearing from Sacramento.

6 MS. LE: Hang Le for the Deponent and for the  
7 Plaintiffs in L.C., et al., versus State of California,  
8 et al.

9 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Thank you. Now, would the  
10 court reporter please administer the oath.

11  
12 JASMINE HERNANDEZ,  
13 having been first duly sworn, was examined and  
14 testified as follows:

15  
16 EXAMINATION

17 BY MS. GUSTAFSON:

18 Q Can you please state your name for the record.

19 A Jasmine Hernandez.

20 Q Have you ever used any name other than  
21 Jasmine Hernandez?

22 A No.

23 Q Have you ever had your deposition taken before?

24 A No.

25 Q I'm sure you had an opportunity to speak with

1           A       I didn't know he had a vehicle. And, yes,  
2 he -- I -- I -- that was his mom's vehicle.

3           Q       So the car was owned by his mom, but it was the  
4 car that he would regularly drive?

5           A       Yes.

6           Q       And it was the car that you always saw him  
7 driving?

8           A       Yes.

9           Q       What time did he get to your house on  
10 February 16th?

11          A       Around 10:00 a.m.

12          Q       Did he tell you where he was before he went to  
13 your house?

14          A       His sister Susana's house.

15          Q       Do you know what he was doing at Susana's  
16 house?

17          A       No.

18          Q       Did Hector tell you that the police had tried  
19 to pull him over the night before, on February 15th?

20          A       No.

21          Q       Did you ever see Hector drinking?

22          A       Yes.

23          Q       And how often would Hector drink alcohol?

24          A       With a meal.

25          Q       With every meal?



1 A Not every meal.

2 Q Did you ever see him drinking any other time  
3 other than with a meal?

4 A Yes. In social gatherings.

5 Q Have you ever seen him drunk?

6 A No.

7 MS. GUSTAFSON: You know, we've been going for  
8 about an hour. Why don't we just take a ten-minute  
9 break.

10 THE WITNESS: Okay.

11 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Just one moment, please. It  
12 is now 10:04 a.m., and we are off the record.

13 (Recess taken from 10:04 a.m. until 10:14 a.m.)

14 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: It's now 10:14 a.m., and we  
15 are on the record.

16 BY MS. GUSTAFSON:

17 Q Ms. Hernandez, you understand you're still  
18 under oath. Is there any reason you can't continue to  
19 give us truthful testimony here today?

20 A No.

21 Q All right. You had indicated earlier that you  
22 talk with Antonia regularly. Did she ever express to  
23 you that she was concerned that Hector had a drinking  
24 problem?

25 A No.

1 Q Did you ever -- were you ever aware that Hector  
2 had been arrested for a DUI?

3 A No.

4 Q Did you ever see Hector use drugs?

5 A No.

6 Q Did he ever tell you that he had used drugs?

7 A No.

8 Q Do you know why there would be syringes in the  
9 car that he was driving that night that he died?

10 A No. I was not aware.

11 Q Did you ever learn that he had meth in his  
12 system at the time he died?

13 A No.

14 Q Does that surprise you?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Has anyone ever told -- has anyone ever told  
17 you that he was drinking at the time the police pulled  
18 him over and that he was throwing beer cans out of the  
19 car?

20 A No.

21 Q Is that surprising to you?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Did Hector ever talk to you about having two  
24 strikes?

25 A No.

1 Q That's the only contact you ever had with  
2 Claudia?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And what was it about Christine that made you  
5 believe she was a bad influence?

6 A I just -- she rubbed off on me the wrong way.

7 Q Anything in particular she said or did?

8 A She looked like a drug addict.

9 Q And did you say that to Hector?

10 A Yes, once he -- once he left. But me and  
11 Hector had a -- me and Hector knew our facial  
12 expressions since we've been friends for a long time.  
13 So I gave him "the face".

14 Q The face of disapproval?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Did you ever have any discussions with Hector  
17 after meeting Christine about his relationship with  
18 Christine and your concerns?

19 A Yes.

20 Q What were those communications?

21 A To not bring her around me or my child again.

22 Q What did he say in response?

23 A Okay.

24 Q Did he tell that you he was going to meet  
25 Christine after he left your house on February 16th?

1 you and wearing a ring to signify his relationship with  
2 you?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And then you were together for a couple of  
5 months in 2020?

6 A Yes.

7 Q What was the reason your relationship ended  
8 again in 2020?

9 A We just decided to go our separate ways.

10 Q Did it have anything to do with Lydia?

11 A No.

12 Q To your knowledge, did -- did Hector ever cheat  
13 on you in your relationship with him when you were in  
14 the relationship?

15 A Not from my knowledge.

16 Q And so your breaking up with him not once but  
17 twice had nothing to do with him being involved with  
18 other women?

19 A No.

20 Q Did it have anything to do with him being  
21 arrested or with drugs or alcohol?

22 A No.

23 Q It was just you decided to end it, wasn't  
24 working out?

25 A Yes.

DECLARATION

I herby declare I am the deponent in the within  
matter; that I have read the foregoing deposition and  
know the contents thereof; and I declare that the same  
is true of my knowledge except as to the matters which  
are therein stated upon my information or belief, and as  
to those matters, I believe it to be true.

I declare under the penalties of perjury of the  
State of California that the foregoing is true and  
correct.

Executed on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, at  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.  
(City) (State)

\_\_\_\_\_  
JASMINE HERNANDEZ

Hernandez, Jasmine  
L.C., a minor v. State of California

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DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET

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\_\_\_\_\_  
JASMINE HERNANDEZ

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATED

1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
2 )  
3 COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO )  
4

5 I, Mary P. Randle, Certified Shorthand  
6 Reporter in and for the State of California,  
7 Certificate No. 10312, do hereby certify:

8 That prior to being examined, the witness named  
9 in the foregoing deposition was by me first duly sworn  
10 to testify to the truth, the whole truth, and nothing  
11 but the truth;

12 That said deposition was taken remotely before  
13 me at the time and place therein set forth and was taken  
14 down by me in shorthand and thereafter transcribed into  
15 typewriting under my direction and supervision;

16 I further certify that I am neither counsel for,  
17 nor related to, any party to said action, nor in any way  
18 interested in the outcome thereof.

19 In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my  
20 name.

21 Dated: December 22, 2024  
22

23 Mary Randle, CSR#10312  
24 MARY P. RANDLE  
25 CSR No. 10312